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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GP 2854
#7 Election
5-3-02
L. Spruell

Applicants: Michael ZIMMER
Birgit LATTERMANN
Bernd SCHULTHEIS

Group No.: 2854

Serial No.: 09/760,874

Examiner: Ren Luo Yan

Filing Date: 16 January 2001

Title: DEVICE FOR PRINTING ON PAPER OR
PLATE-SHAPED MATERIALS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 24 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed 14 March 2002, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement, alleging that the referenced U.S. Patent Application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. The Examiner identified the species as shown by Figs. 2-4, respectively.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute the species of Fig. 2.

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

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Date

Signature

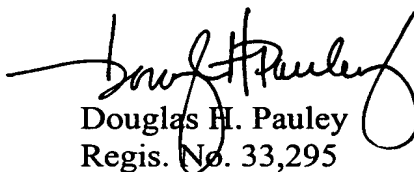
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Applicants believe that Claims 1-8 and 11-17 read upon the elected species of Fig. 2.

Applicants believe that the above remarks address each issue raised by the Examiner and fully respond to the Office Action mailed 14 March 2002. However, should the Examiner detect any remaining issue or have any question, Applicants kindly request the Examiner to contact the undersigned, preferably by telephone in an effort to expedite examination of this Patent Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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